IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.   : 10/786,224   Confirmation No. : 2832
First Named Inventor : Burkhard KUHLS
Filed   : February 26, 2004
TC/A.U.   : 2136
Examiner   : JOHNSON, CARLTON

Docket No.   : 080437.53236US
Customer No.   : 23911

Title   : Method for Providing Software to Be Used by a Control
                        Unit of a Vehicle

REPLY AFTER FINAL

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated November 28, 2007, reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-20 remain pending.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of the combination of U.S. Patent No. 5,957,985 to Wong et al. ("Wong") and U.S. Patent No. 6,463,535 to Drews ("Drews"). This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant's claim 1 recites a method that involves *signing software* against falsification using a secret key according to a public-key method and checking the *signed software* for integrity using a public key complementary to the secret key. The combination of Wong and Drews does not disclose or suggest this claimed method.